



HEARING PROGRAM

Additional Estimates 2025–26

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Wednesday, 11 February 2026 – Thursday, 12 February 2026
Main Committee Room, Parliament House, Canberra

Times listed are indicative only



Hearing location

Main Committee Room
Parliament House, Canberra
Waiting room: Waiting room 1S2
Waiting overflow room: Committee Room 1S3



Broadcasts of proceedings

Television channel 110
Radio 92.7
https://www.aph.gov.au/News_and_Events/Watch_Ready_Listen



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Committee rooms

Main Committee Room (MCR): (02) 6277 5840
Waiting Room 1S2: (02) 6277 5849
Committee Room 1S3: (02) 6277 5845

Committee members

Senator Raff Ciccone (Chair)
Senator the Hon Sarah Henderson (Deputy Chair)
Senator Varun Ghosh
Senator Andrew McLachlan CSC
Senator David Shoebridge
Senator Ellie Whiteaker

Ministers attending

Senator the Hon Jenny McAllister
Senator the Hon Penny Wong
Senator the Hon Don Farrell

Secretariat

Pothida Youhorn, Committee Secretary
Georgia O'Connor, Estimates Officer



Written questions on notice are due to the secretariat by **20 February 2026**.

Answers to questions taken on notice are due to the committee by **10 April 2026**

Wednesday, 11 February

Defence Portfolio

9.00am	<p>Department of Defence</p> <p>Outcome 1: Defend Australia and its national interests through the conduct of operations and provision of support for the Australian community and civilian authorities in accordance with Government direction.</p> <p>Program 1.1: Operations Contributing to the Safety of the Immediate Neighbourhood</p> <p>Program 1.2: Operations Supporting Wider Interests</p> <p>Program 1.3: Defence Contribution to National Support Tasks in Australia</p> <p>Outcome 2: Protect and advance Australia's strategic interests through the provision of strategic policy, the development, delivery and sustainment of military, intelligence and enabling capabilities, and the promotion of regional and global security and stability as directed by Government.</p> <p>Program 2.1: Strategy, Policy and Industry</p> <p>Program 2.2: Defence Executive Support (including Governance Group)</p> <p>Program 2.3: Defence Finance</p> <p>Program 2.4: Joint Capabilities</p> <p>Program 2.5: Navy Capabilities</p> <p>Program 2.6: Army Capabilities</p> <p>Program 2.7: Air Force Capabilities</p> <p>Program 2.8: Australian Defence Force Headquarters</p> <p>Program 2.9: Capability Acquisition and Sustainment (including Guided Weapons and Explosive Ordnance Group)</p> <p>Program 2.10: Security and Estate</p> <p>Program 2.11: Defence Digital</p> <p>Program 2.12: Defence People (including Chief of Personnel)</p> <p>Program 2.13: Defence Science and Technology</p> <p>Program 2.14: Defence Intelligence</p> <p>Program 2.15: Naval Shipbuilding and Sustainment</p> <p>Program 2.16: Nuclear-Powered Submarines</p> <p>Program 2.19: Defence Trusts and Joint Accounts</p> <p>Program 2.20: Defence Force Superannuation Benefits</p> <p>Program 2.21: Defence Force Superannuation Nominal Interest</p> <p>Program 2.22: Housing Assistance</p> <p>Program 2.23: Other Administered</p>
11.00am	Morning tea
11.10am	<p>Department of Defence (continued)</p>
1.00pm	Lunch
1.45pm	<p>Department of Defence (continued)</p>
3.00pm	<p>Australian Submarine Agency</p> <p>Outcome 1: Safely and securely acquire, construct, deliver, technically govern, sustain and dispose of Australia's conventionally-armed nuclear-powered submarine capability, via the AUKUS partnership.</p> <p>Program 1.1: Nuclear-Powered Submarines</p>

4.00pm	Afternoon tea
4.10pm	Australian Submarine Agency (continued)
5.00pm	Australian Signals Directorate <p>Outcome 1: Defend Australia from global threats and advance our national interests through the provision of foreign signals intelligence, cyber security and offensive cyber operations, as directed by Government.</p> <p>Program 1.1: Foreign Signals Intelligence, Cyber Security and Offensive Cyber Operations</p>
5.30pm	Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force
5.45pm	Defence Housing Australia <p>Outcome 1: To contribute to Defence outcomes by providing total housing services that meet Defence Operational and client needs through a strong customer and business focus.</p> <p>Program 1.1: The provision of Defence housing and housing related services</p>
6.15pm	Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI)
6.30pm	Dinner break
7.15pm	Department of Veterans' Affairs <p>Outcome 1: Maintain and enhance the financial wellbeing and self-sufficiency of eligible persons and their dependants through access to income support, compensation, and other support services, including advice and information about entitlements.</p> <p>Program 1.1: Veterans' Income Support and Allowances Program 1.2: Veterans' Disability Support Program 1.3: Assistance to Defence Widow/ers and Dependants Program 1.4: Assistance and Other Compensation for Veterans and Dependants Program 1.5: Veterans' Children Education Scheme Program 1.6: Veterans' Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Acts Payments - Income Support and Compensation</p> <p>Outcome 2: Maintain and enhance the physical and mental wellbeing and quality of life of eligible persons and their dependants through health and other care services that promote early intervention, prevention and treatment, including advice and information about health service entitlements.</p> <p>Program 2.1: General Medical Consultations and Services Program 2.2: Veterans' Hospital Services Program 2.3: Veterans' Pharmaceutical Benefits Program 2.4: Veterans' Community Care and Support Program 2.5: Veterans' Counselling and Other Health Services Program 2.6: Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Acts - Health and Other Care Services</p>

	<p>Outcome 3: Acknowledgement and commemoration of those who served Australia and its allies in wars, conflicts and peace operations through promoting recognition of service and sacrifice, preservation of Australia's wartime heritage, and official commemorations.</p> <p>Program 3.1: War Graves</p> <p>Program 3.2: Commemorative Activities</p>
8.45pm	Repatriation Medical Authority
9.00pm	Veterans' Review Board
9.15pm	Defence and Veterans' Services Commission (DVSC)
9.30pm	<p>Australian War Memorial</p> <p>Outcome 1: Australians remembering, interpreting and understanding the Australian experience of war and its enduring impact through maintaining and developing the National Memorial, its collection and exhibition of historical material, commemorative ceremonies and research.</p> <p>Program 1.1: To maintain and develop the National Memorial and a National Collection of historical material and through commemorative ceremonies, exhibitions, research, interpretation and dissemination.</p>
10.00pm	Adjournment

Thursday, 12 February

Foreign Affairs and Trade Portfolio

9.00am	<p>Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (non-trade programs)</p> <p>Outcome 1: The advancement of Australia's international strategic, security and economic interests including through bilateral, regional and multilateral engagement on Australian Government foreign, trade and international development policy priorities.</p> <p>Program 1.1: Foreign Affairs and Trade Operations Program 1.2: Official Development Assistance Program 1.3: Official Development Assistance - Multilateral Replenishments Program 1.4: Payments to International Organisations Program 1.5: New Colombo Plan - Transforming Regional Relationships Program 1.6: Public Information Services and Public Diplomacy Program 1.7: Programs to Promote Australia's International Tourism Interests Program 1.8: Nuclear-Powered Submarine Program</p> <p>Outcome 2: The protection and welfare of Australians abroad and access to secure international travel documentation through timely and responsive travel advice and consular and passport services in Australia and overseas.</p> <p>Program 2.1: Consular Services Program 2.2: Passport Services</p> <p>Outcome 3: A secure Australian Government presence overseas through the provision of security services and information and communications technology infrastructure, and the management of the Commonwealth's overseas property estate.</p> <p>Program 3.1: Foreign Affairs and Trade Security and IT Program 3.2: Overseas Property</p>
11.45am	Lunch
12.45pm	<p>Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (non-trade programs) (continued)</p>
3.45pm	Afternoon tea
4.00pm	<p>Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)</p> <p>Outcome 1: To achieve more productive and sustainable agricultural systems for the benefit of developing countries and Australia through international agricultural research and training partnerships.</p> <p>Program 1.1: International agricultural research-for-development for more productive and sustainable agriculture</p>
4.30pm	<p>Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (trade programs)</p>
6.15pm	Dinner break

7.00pm	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (trade programs)
8.00pm	Export Finance Australia
8.45pm	<p>Australian Trade and Investment Commission</p> <p>Outcome 1: To contribute to Australia's economic prosperity by supporting Australian exporters to expand internationally, attracting productive international investment, and growing the visitor economy.</p> <p>Program 1.1: Supporting Australian exporters to expand internationally, attracting productive international investment, and growing the visitor economy</p> <p>Program 1.2: Programs to support Australian exporters to expand internationally, attract productive international investment, and grow the visitor economy</p> <p>Outcome 2: The protection and welfare of Australians abroad through timely and responsive consular and passport services in specific locations overseas.</p> <p>Program 2.1: Consular and Passport Services</p>
9.30pm	<p>Tourism Australia</p> <p>Outcome 1: Grow demand and foster a competitive and sustainable Australian tourism industry through partnership marketing to targeted global consumers in key markets.</p> <p>Program 1.1: Supporting Outcome 1</p>
10.00pm	Adjournment